

**REMARKS**

Review and reconsideration of the application in view of Applicants' amendments and remarks are respectfully requested. Applicants herein amend Claims 8, 15, and 26 for clarity, which amendments are supported in the specification and claims as originally filed.

In the amendment filed January 12, 2006, Applicants amended Figure 1 to address the Examiner's objection. However, the Examiner has not commented on the proposed drawing correction. Approval of the proposed amended Figure 1 submitted January 12, 2006, for Figure 1, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-13, 15-18 and 24-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kita et al. (U.S. Patent Number 6,707,927). Applicants traverse the rejections for at least the following reasons.

Kita et al. is directed to a steganographic system, wherein an image includes a watermark that is not discernable to human eyes, such that the watermark can be used to deter illegal copying of images. As stated at col. 6, lines 36-40:

The picture quality preference implies that deterioration in the picture quality is suppressed to such an extent that even when a watermark embedded image is directly compared with the original image, human eyes can hardly discern the difference.

In order to use the embedded watermark to track illegal distribution of images, the watermark can not be apparent to a viewer.

In contrast, Braudaway, which was previously applied and overcome, relates to watermarking of images such that the watermark is readily apparent to a viewer.

In contrast to both of the above references, Applicants invention is a method of providing human visible information on an image such that the information is not obtrusive. That is, the information is readily human visible, but not offensive to the viewer in that it does not obscure any important details of the image. See page 2, lines 4-8 and 23-36; and page 4,

lines 8-10. Thus, information presented by the claimed invention is neither glaringly obvious, as in the case of Braudaway et al., nor nearly impossible to detect, as described in Kita et al.

Kita et al. is intended to obscure the data added to the image so that the modified image is hardly discernable from the original image. IN contrast, the claimed invention requires the information be added such that it is human visible but not obtrusive. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of the above comments are in order and are respectfully requested.

All of claims 2-13, 15-18, 24-34 being in condition for allowance for at least the above reasons, reconsideration and prompt action in the form of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner require anything further, or have any questions, the Examiner is asked to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kathleen Neuner Manne', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.